

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 31 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 5 shows the basic set-up comprising the amplitude-modulating device 7, aperture 3, achromatic doublet lenses 8 and 14, and the zero-order spatial filter 10 in a 4F configuration. A laser source 30 emits a collimated laser beam at 633 nm which is expanded in expander 40 to a beam diameter of 10 mm. ~~An iris 31 having~~ The iris 3 has an aperture of 5 mm and is positioned between the amplitude-modulating device 7 and the first Fourier lens 8. The Fourier lenses 8 and 14 have focal lengths $F_1 = F_2 = 200$ mm, however, 14 will often have a larger focal length in order to introduce a magnification of output given by F_2/F_1 . The spatial filter 10 is positioned in the Fourier plane between the lenses. The size of the circular central part 12 transmitting the zero-order component of the Fourier distribution is in the range 20-100 μm but is typically chosen in relation to the size of the aperture 3 in order to achieve an appropriate overlap as expressed by \square . The spatial filter ~~[[have]]~~ has parameters $A = B = 1$, which indicates a loss less filter, and $\theta = \pi$.